

# **MORNING MEDITATION**

**Saturday, Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time**

**God conceals the secrets of heaven from the wise  
and prudent of this world and reveals them to little ones.**

(St. Vincent de Paul)

## **Revelation 22:1-7**

John describes the heavenly Jerusalem as the abode of the divine life, the very dwelling place of God. The throne of God is the center of this place which replaces the temple. The river of life flows there, and fruit bearing trees grow on the bank of this river. All who have been welcomed into this presence will have no need for the light from the lamp or the sun. God will give them light, and they will reign forever.

**The saints of God will enjoy the eternal presence of life, light, joy, and love in the very presence of God.**

## **Psalm 95**

**Come let us sing joyfully to the Lord;  
Let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.  
Let us greet him with thanksgiving;  
Let us joyfully sing psalms to him.**

## **Luke 21:34-36**

Jesus continued to call his disciples to be alert and awake and to stand strong. He told them about the difficulties ahead. Throughout his ministry, Jesus emphasized that the suffering of persecution for the sake of the Kingdom and for the cause of justice was an integral part of being a disciple. The “Day of the Lord” will come. No one knew the time or the day or the hour.

God will break in at the least expected moment, through least expected events, people, and situations. So, it is urgent to stay awake, alert and prepared. Jesus said to them, “Pray constantly for strength...”

**Be alert and awake and be prepared and continue to fulfill the mission of Jesus in proclaiming the kingdom of justice and peace for all.**

**Saint of the Day, November 26 - St. Columban and 14 other saints are remembered this day.**

Saint Columban, (Columbanus in Latin) was born around 540 in Leinster, Ireland. He was well-educated in the areas of grammar, rhetoric, geometry, and the Holy Scriptures. He was one of the greatest missionaries of the Celtic church, who initiated a revival of spirituality on the European continent. Educated in the monastery of Bangor, County Down, Columban left Ireland for Europe around 590 with 12 monks. They won wide respect for the rigor of their discipline, their preaching, and their commitment to charity and religious life in a time characterized by clerical laxity and civil strife. Columban established several monasteries in Europe which became centers of religion and culture.

Columban became unpopular because of his attacks on the degeneracy in the Burgundian court and among local clergy. He reproved the king for his licentious life, insisting that he should get married. Since this threatened the power of the queen mother, Columban was deported back to Ireland. His ship ran aground in a storm, and he continued his work in Europe, ultimately arriving in Italy, where he found favor with the king of the Lombards. In his last years he established the famous monastery of Bobbio, where he died in 615. His writings include a treatise on penance and against Arianism, sermons, poetry, and his monastic rule.

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